

Subject: Re: Westchester Trash bins

From: Donald Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>

Date: 02/03/2012 04:17 PM

To: Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org>

CC: Whitney Blumenfeld <whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org>, Miki Payne2 <miki@hbdrollinger.com>, Jruhlen916 <jruhlen916@aol.com>, Matthew Hayden <haydenplanning@ca.rr.com>

BCC: Donald R Duckworth <duckworth.donald@gmail.com>

I just called Matt after I received your email, Nate. He said nothing happened today. He wants to try 1 more time on Monday AM. (He felt all of the planners might have been off today.) If that doesn't produce a resolution, then it would seem to be time to ask the Chief of Staff or the CM to call the Planning Director for action before February 10 or so.

I'm very concerned that we are going to lose \$125,000 in voluntary community beautification. The owner sent an adamant email promising to pull the project if their permit was not in hand by that time.

Nate, can we get that call made Monday PM?

On Fri, Feb 3, 2012 at 3:31 PM, Nate Kaplan <nate.kaplan@lacity.org> wrote:

Did Conni sign off?

On Feb 2, 2012 3:21 PM, "Donald Duckworth" <duckworth.donald@gmail.com> wrote:

I thought it was too. What I hear is: Angela will not sign-off on the permit. She now wants a more expensive block wall; and the creeping fig that the Landscape Architect says will do the job is not technically drought tolerant or native to 1780 (or irrigation and creeping fig); and she still wants an expensive rendering (not just a colored elevation) that serves no purpose at all.

The applicant's processing guy (Matt Hayden) is still trying with Conni and wants to continue through the end of the day.

Tomorrow morning I guess we all call Mike and Bill. I'm praying for a break through before then.

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012 at 2:25 PM, Whitney Blumenfeld <whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Why was the last information not sufficient? Planning is now not requiring the irrigation? I don't understand.

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012 at 2:07 PM, Donald Duckworth
<duckworth.donald@gmail.com> wrote:

Thanks Whitney. Nothing has happened. There has been an on-going discussion with Conni and the applicant, some of which I've been involved in, but no real action. The Ohio Teachers Fund has now said that if the permit is not in hand by February 10 or so they will pull the project.

I just saw Mike Bonin and Bill at the redistricting press conference and told them this. I'm thinking we need Mike to call the Department Head. They said they are willing to make that call. I don't know what else to say. I can't believe that this is really happening.

Shall I call Mike or do you want to?

On Thu, Feb 2, 2012 at 1:54 PM, Whitney Blumenfeld
<whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Don,

I wanted to be in touch to see what occurred after I sent the last email to you from Planning on this topic?

Thank you.

Whitney

On Wed, Jan 25, 2012 at 4:13 PM, Whitney Blumenfeld
<whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Don,

See below. Planning has thought of other options.

Sincerely,

Whitney

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kevin Jones** <kevin.jones@lacity.org>

Date: Wed, Jan 25, 2012 at 3:36 PM

Subject: Re: Westchester Trash bins

To: Whitney Blumenfeld <whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org>

Cc: Conni Pallini <conni.pallini-tipton@lacity.org>, Angela Trinh

<angela.trinh@lacity.org>, Dan Scott <dan.scott@lacity.org>, Marc Woerschling <marc.woerschling@lacity.org>

Whitney et al.:

The applicant is asking for a sign off of the building permit without any additional action. To do this the project must comply with all provisions and guidelines of the CDO. Until recently, the applicant has not been able or willing to meet the necessary request to provide detailed plans. I understand that Angela has been speaking with the applicant within the past few days and it seems that the applicant is willing to prepare plans that are adequately detailed.

Angela Marc and I had a discussion about this project this morning and have outlined a few options that could easily meet CDO guidelines if the applicant provides detailed plans.

The Dept will be looking for:

1. An attractive design that complements the existing main structures. Design cues should come from existing buildings or be in a style that will be used in a future remodel (Not just a cinder block wall with stucco), AND
2. Landscaping that uses California native drought tolerant plants. We will be looking for plants that can provide some screening of the structure. A plant list MUST be included in the plans and stamped by a Landscape practitioner. That plant list should be able to describe or show the heights of mature plants. The applicant will need to enter into some type of agreement to maintain the landscaping. In this case, the use of California native drought tolerant plants will allow us to not require an irrigation system or a hose bib within 50 feet.

Plans with these elements will be reviewed and the building permits can then be signed off without a project permit compliance case.

We hope that this option will provide an adequate resolution to the issues.

On Wed, Jan 25, 2012 at 9:35 AM, Whitney Blumenfeld <whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Conni,

What can we do here? The Field Deputy is being hounded and they are not letting up. I'd love it if we could set up a meeting.

Thank you very much.

Whitney

On Mon, Jan 23, 2012 at 9:34 AM, Whitney Blumenfeld
<whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Conni,

I would really appreciate it if we could all have a meeting together. They are calling the CM and the Chief of Staff. I don't ask for meetings often but this is one situation that I can see getting out of hand.

Thank you.

Whitney

On Jan 23, 2012 9:25 AM, "Conni Pallini" <conni.pallini-tipton@lacity.org> wrote:

hi Whitney,

I spoke with Kevin and Angela and we agreed on DCP's recommendation as described previously by Angela. Kevin will follow up with you directly as we don't see that a meeting of the proposed magnitude will help this situation. We continue to want to help this applicant find a solution that meets everyone's needs, but the applicant needs to be willing to meet the intent and provisions of the CDO and zoning code.

Best, Conni

Conni Pallini-Tipton, AICP
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On Thu, Jan 19, 2012 at 12:23 PM, Whitney Blumenfeld
<whitney.blumenfeld@lacity.org> wrote:

Hi Conni, Angela and Kevin,

The Councilmember and our Chief of Staff want to see some solution and have this issue with the trash bins resolved.

Can we schedule a meeting at your convenience with the appropriate people from Planning and the applicants as well

as one or two representatives from the Westchester BID association?

How is Jan 24, Jan 25, Jan 27, Jan 31, Feb 2, Feb 3, Feb 7, Feb 10?

Thank you!

Whitney

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